61777/P
P/MAS

# RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

# MASONS' SICK SOCIETY,

HELD AT THE

HOUSE OF MRS. HITCHENS,

**Sign of the Ball, Campo-lane, Sheffield.**

---

*INSTITUTED APRIL* 21, 1767.

---

SHEFFIELD:
JOHN BRIDGEFORD, PRINTER, CAXTON OFFICE, MULBERRY-STREET.

1849.

348305

# RULES, &c.

---

Rule 1. That this Society be denominated "The Masons' Sick Society," who shall hold their meetings at the house of Eliza Hitchens, Golden Ball, Campo-lane, Sheffield, in the County of York, or at any other place the Society at a general meeting convened for that purpose shall appoint,—notice to be given to the Clerk of the Peace seven days prior to, or seven days after, such removal.

2. That the intents and purposes for which this Society is established are to provide for the mutual relief of its Members in sickness, infirmity, and old age, and for their decent interment after death, and also to raise a fund for that purpose by monthly subscription.

3. That this Society shall be governed by one President, two Wardens, and twelve Assistants, and that the said President, Wardens, and Assistants shall provide a strong box, or chest, with three locks and keys, where the books, cash, and other things belonging to the Society shall be deposited, the President and Wardens shall each of them have a key, and no money shall be taken from the box but when some of the Assistants are present, two at least.

4. That the President shall continue in office one year only, the elder Warden to succeed the President, the younger to succeed the elder, a new Warden to be chosen by the Members from the Assistants or Society, three of whom sball be nominated by the President and Wardens, for that purpose the President, Wardens, and Assistants, for the time being, to choose the succeeding Assistant from the whole body, the Assistants to serve office one year.

5. That the President, Wardens, and Assistants, shall be at the Club-room precisely at seven o'clock in the evening, on the first Monday in every month, that being the General Meeting night, to transact business; if the Key-holders, Clerk, and

Beadle neglect to attend at the time appointed they shall forfeit sixpence each, and if the Assistants neglect to attend at the above time, they shall forfeit twopence each; if the Key-holders neglect to attend, but send their keys, shall forfeit only twopence each,—these forfeits to be paid on or before the yearly accounts are made out, or, for such neglect, shall forfeit two shillings and sixpence to the funds.

6. That if the President, or Wardens, refuse to serve their office to the end of the time limited, after being legally chosen according to the Rules of this Society, he or they, for such refusal, shall forfeit five shillings each; and if any of the Assistants shall refuse to serve, being chosen as above prescribed, shall forfeit two shillings and sixpence each.

7. That every month, by rotation, two of the Assistants shall be appointed to visit the sick once every week, or as often as the President may think necessary, Sundays excepted, for every neglect shall forfeit sixpence; they shall likewise attend once a week upon the Cashier for orders, and for such neglect shall forfeit twopence. The President shall every meeting night examine the visiting notes to ascertain the observance of this Rule, and for the breach of it, to enforce its fines, for not performing this the President shall forfeit sixpence.

8. That the President, Wardens, and Assistants enforce the observance of these Rules, and whatever they may consult, or do among themselves, it being no breach of a fundamental rule, but for the benefit of the Society, the vindication of private character, and the saving of expence to the Society—the determination of a majority of three-fourths shall be final.

9. That the President, Wardens, and Assistants be allowed seven shillings and sixpence each monthly meeting night for expenses of the evening, such expenses to be paid from the funds of the society.

10. If the President shall have occasion to summon the Wardens and two Assistants together for any further money for the Cashier to pay the sick, he shall give them one day's notice by the Beadle, and if any one refuse, or neglect to come, shall forfeit sixpence,—one shilling and sixpence allowed for the expence, and one shilling for the Beadle for warning the same.

11. That a Cashier be elected from the Society to receive all warnings, pay the sick and funerals, make sick lists for the Society, and for the Assistants who have to visit the sick while on pay, and shall, on every meeting night, publish, in writing, two

lists of the Members who have received pay during the month, and also of those who remain on pay, or, for such neglect, shall forfeit five shillings, for which he shall receive the sum of eight pounds per year, the said Cashier to give sufficient security in accordance with 10 Geo. 4th, c. 56, s. 11.

N.B. The Cashier to reside as central in the town as possible.

12. That the Cashier of this Society shall from time to time receive such sum or sums of money as shall be thought necessary for the payment of the sick, and shall bring in its accounts every meeting night, or at any other time when required by the President and Assistants to show how much he hath paid, and to whom, which shall be entered into the Society's book of accounts, and shall then receive such further sums as shall be thought necessary from time to time to the end of the year.

13. That a Secretary be elected from the Society, whose business shall be, in addition to his office, to collect the interest money due to the Society, for which he shall receive for wages the sum of five guineas per annum.

14. That the Secretary shall, once in every year, prepare, pursuant to Geo. 4th, c. 56, s. 33, a statement of the funds and effects of, or belonging to this Society, and every Member may have a copy; the Secretary neglecting to make such statement shall be fined five shillings.

15. That a Beadle be elected from the Society, whose duty shall be to wait on the Cashier twice every week, and visit the sick once the first week, for which he shall receive the sum of four pounds four shillings per year, and also one penny from each Member on the general meeting night in each year, and also for extra visiting, such as Barlow's Island, Highfield, &c., sixpence each time, to Attercliffe, &c., eightpence; and all visits of three miles distance one shilling, and two shillings for warning a Committee meeting.

16. That the Cashier, Secretary, and Beadle be elected annually, the nomination of the three officers to take place on the meeting nights in May and June in each year, when any Member will be allowed to nominate one to each office, and the Election to take place on the meeting night in July,—the persons elected to take their situations on the meeting night in August, the last Officers eligible for re-election.

17. The Cashier, President, Secretary, and Beadle shall make up their accounts some time between the general meeting night

and the third Monday in July, for the examination of the Committee, or for such neglect, forfeit five shillings each.

18. That the Cashier, Secretary, and Beadle shall attend all meetings of the Society at the time appointed, or, for every such neglect, forfeit fourpence each.

19. That a Committee of five Members be appointed from the body to audit the accounts, with the general Officers of the Society, and to give their assistance when required, in lending out the surplus cash on mortgage, to be chosen as follows:—Any Member being allowed to propose one on the meeting night in May, and the said Committee to be balloted for on the meeting night in June: three of the Committee to go out of office at the end of the year, and three others to be elected in their place; in the second year the remaining two shall go out of office, and two more elected to serve in their place, and so on alternately—the said Committee to attend all meetings when required, or forfeit sixpence each.

20. Every person that is admitted into this Society, except Members' sons, shall pay for entrance as follows:—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| At the age of | 25 years, | ... | five shillings. |
| „ | 26 „ | ... | eight „ |
| „ | 27 „ | ... | eleven „ |
| „ | 28 „ | ... | fourteen „ |
| „ | 29 „ | ... | seventeen „ |
| „ | 30 „ | ... | twenty „ |

Members' sons and sons-in-law to pay two shillings and sixpence less than the above scale, and no person shall be admitted a Member till he has made a personal appearance, and any Member's son, or son-in-law, who hath received the privilege before mentioned, and shall afterwards exclude himself, he shall not enter again upon the same terms as before, but shall pay the same as a stranger.

N.B. Deceased Members' sons, and sons-in-law, to have the same privilege as if the father was living.

21. That any person who is proposed a Member of this Society shall sign a declaration that he is free from any bodily infirmity, and any Member having any bodily infirmity upon him at the time of his admittance, and it is afterwards proved, he shall be excluded immediately.

22. That every Member of this Society shall pay one shilling and sixpence per month contribution; if any Member neglect to pay his contribution by nine o'clock shall forfeit, for the first

night, twopence; for the two successive nights, fourpence; for three nights, sixpence; and shall have five days allowed to pay the same to the Beadle, who shall give such Member notice, for which he shall pay the Beadle twopence; if not paid on the fourth meeting night, with a further forfeit of sixpence, he shall be excluded, unless a majority of five-sixths of the Assistants (to whom his case shall be submitted), deem it expedient to allow him a fortnight longer—then, if not paid, the provisions of the Rule shall be imperative.

23. That if any Member of this Society be sick or lame, after he has been in one year (except such sickness or lameness is brought on by drunkenness, gambling, fighting, or any other improper course of life), he shall receive nine shillings per week during twelve weeks, if so long incapable of working; if he continue longer incapable, he shall receive four shillings and sixpence per week during the whole time of his unfitness for work. If any Member continue well for twelve months after receiving pay, he shall be entitled again to twelve weeks full pay, but if he fall sick or lame within twelve months, the money he before received shall be included in the twelve weeks pay;—no money paid until a week has transpired from the date of his warning.

24. That any Member claiming the Society's relief, residing more than two miles from Sheffield, before he can receive such relief, shall send a Certificate of his illness, signed by a Medical gentleman, and a Minister of the parish in which he then resides, such Certificate to be renewed every fortnight; the Member so applying to defray all expense of transmitting such information.

N.B. The same in all respects is to be understood if any Member be from home, or on a journey.

25. That any Member giving notice to the Cashier for relief shall do it by a written notice (see Form at the end of Rules), signed by two Club members, mentioning the place of his abode, before two o'clock in the afternoon, at the same time the Cashier shall deliver to him a ticket, which must be produced every time he sends for his pay, and given up when he gives up his pay; and if found working, or behaving himself unbecoming, his situation, with such ticket in his possession, he shall be fined, or excluded, as the Assistants shall think proper; or if he begin to work, or behave himself unbecoming, his situation, on the day his pay becomes due, shall forfeit five shillings.

26. That each Member, on giving notice to the Cashier for sick pay, shall receive a note to fill up, stating his name, place

of abode, how many weeks' pay he has had, and how many times he has been visited during the preceding month, or for every such neglect forfeit sixpence.

27. If any sick Member, having received one week's pay, be ordered into the country for the benefit of his health, he shall be permitted to do so by sending a Medical Certificate to the Cashier one day previous to him leaving Sheffield, and shall be entitled to pay the same as if he was in Sheffield; but if any person should go into the country, without sending a Medical Certificate to the Cashier, he shall forfeit his claim to pay, and give notice again according to 25th Rule.

N.B. No Medical Assistant's note will be accepted.

28. That all Members receiving the benefit of this Society, when able to walk out, shall apply personally to the Cashier for their pay, and any one refusing to attend, his pay shall be disallowed until he satisfies the Cashier why he has not attended.

29. That if any Member of this Society shall be convicted of felony or theft by a verdict of his countrymen, he shall be excluded immediately; and if any Member be cast into prison for debt, or be admitted into the Poor-house, or any Hospital, Almshouse, &c. (except the Infirmary), he shall neither pay to, nor receive any benefit from the society during his residence there, but at his decease his representative may receive his funeral allowance.

N.B. A sick Member with a family shall be allowed to have relief from the parish by consent of the acting officers, but if he receive relief without such consent, he shall be fined or excluded.

30. That if any Member die when he hath been in this Society one whole year, on notice being given to the Cashier, he shall pay the widow, or whom he may appoint, one pound; and if two years, two pounds; and if three years, three pounds; and if four years, four pounds; and if five years, five pounds; and if six years, six pounds; and if seven years, seven pounds; and if eight years, eight pounds;—and if any Member's wife die when he hath been in this Society three years, he shall receive one pound, and if he hath been in six years he shall receive two pounds, but not for more than one wife; such amount to be deducted from his own funeral money.

31. That if any charge of fraud or imposition be brought against any Member at the time of such Member receiving the

weekly allowance, his pay shall be suspended till he hath cleared himself from the imputation; and if any Member of this Society cast a reflection on his brother Member for any thing he hath received from this Society; unless he prove the same was not lawfully received, he shall be fined as the President, Wardens, and Assistants shall think proper.

32. That if any Member of this Society behave improperly during the hours of meeting, as offering to lay wagers, swearing, using unbecoming language, &c., or continue to talk when the President hath demanded silence, he for every such offence shall be fined according to the decision of the Assistants.

33. That no member shall be allowed to sit in the President's room on the meeting night with the Presidents, Wardens, and Assistants, only the two Presidents latest in Office, or any other Member who may have business to transact with the Society; any Member violating this Article shall forfeit one shilling.

34. If any Member remove his place of residence, he shall give notice to the Beadle in three meeting nights after such removal, or pay threepence to the Beadle, to be paid within three meeting nights after, or be fined one shilling.

35. That any Member enlisting in the army, navy, fencibles, or regular militia, shall, when attested, be excluded this Society, but any Member, being balloted in the regular militia, shall neither pay to nor receive any benefit from the funds of this Society during his actual service therein; if, however, after such service, he return a sound Member, he shall, on paying off all arrears due from him at the time he was ballotted, again be entitled to all the benefits of this Society nevertheless, the time of such service shall not be allowed to form any part of the term in reckoning his benefit or funeral money; but if such Member do not appear at the Club-room within two months after his discharge, he shall be excluded.

36. All matters in dispute between this Society and any person or officer acting in behalf of this Society, any Member or person claiming to be a Member of this Society, or account of any Member, shall be referred to arbitration, who shall decide such dispute according to the true intent and meaning of the Rules of this Society, and not otherwise, for which purpose five Arbitrators shall be elected at the first meeting held after the enrolment of these Rules, who shall not directly or indirectly be beneficially interested in this Society, three of whom shall be appointed by lot in each case of dispute, and whenever any va-

eancy shall occur from death or otherwise, such vacancy shall be supplied at the next monthly meeting night.

37. If any Member think himself aggrieved at any thing done, or omitted to be done by this Society, he shall require the President to call a meeting of the Standing Committee, and if the President neglect to do so within eight days, a meeting shall be called by the Standing Committee, who shall hear the matter in dispute, and if their decision be not satisfactorily to the parties so aggrieved, they shall, if he require them so to do in his presence, draw by lot three arbitrators, to whom the matter in dispute shall be referred, and their decision shall be final. If any one or more of the three Arbitrators be absent, or neglect or refuse to arbitrate within eight days of such appointment, a fresh appointment shall be made by the Standing Committee from the list of Arbitrators; and if the President, or Standing Committee, refuse or neglect to appoint Arbitrators as aforesaid, or if the Arbitrators so appointed neglect or refuse to make their award within forty days afterwards, such Member so aggrieved shall have the right to apply to the Magistrate to have the matter in dispute heard and decided.

38. That such part of the stock as the exigencies of the Society may not require, shall be invested in real security, pursuant to 10 Geo. 4, c. 56, s. 13, such securities to be approved by Committee, and such investment shall be made in the names of the Trustees for the time being.

N.B. All buildings must be insured from loss from fire, at the expense of the mortgagee.

39. That in case of the expenditure of the current year exceeding its income (if the Committee deem it necessary), the loss shall be proportioned to each Member, to be paid by quarterly instalments, for such neglect, at the general night, shall forfeit one shilling extra.

40. That all General Meetings of this Society shall be convened by the President with the concurrence of the Committee, or by a requisition signed by twenty Members, and when so called, the Assistants shall issue notices on the three previous Club nights to such meeting taking place.

N.B. Such notice also to be placed in the Club-room as conspicuous as possible.

41. That this Society shall not be dissolved or broken up without the concurrence of five-sixths of the existing Members in conformity with 10 Geo. 4th, c. 56, s. 26.

42. Any Member being fined for a breach of these Rules, and not paying the same within six months after such fine is levied, shall be suspended from all benefit till the fine be paid; if not paid within six months, to be excluded.

N.B. This has reference to special fines.

43. That the funds of this Society, contributions, fines, forfeitures of the Members, and all other money which shall be subscribed, paid, or given to, or for the use and benefit of this Society, and dividends, interests, and proceeds arising therefrom, shall be appropriated in the manner, and for the beneficial interests and purposes herein before described, and not otherwise.

44. That three Trustees shall be elected on a quarterly night, who shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Society, and in case of a vacancy, or vacancies, another or others shall be elected in like manner.

45. That a book or books be kept, in which all monies received or paid on account of any particular fund or benefit for which the Rules of the Society provide shall be entered in a separate account, distinct from the monies received and paid on account of any other benefit or provision. (9 & 10 Vict., c. 27, s. 4.)

46. The Returns of the Rate of Sickness and Mortality required by law to be sent by every Friendly Society at intervals of five years shall be sent to the Registrar of Friendly Societies in *England*, according to such Form as shall be prepared for that purpose by the said Registrar under the direction of one of Her Majesties principal Secretaries of State; and with every such Return shall be sent a *Report of the Assets and Liabilities* of such Society.

47. The Treasurer, Trustees, Stewards, or other principal officer of every such Society, who by the Rules of such Society are or is bound to prepare, or cause to be prepared, the yearly General Statement of the Funds and Effects of such Society, shall be the persons who shall be respectively bound to make or cause to be made, and to send to the Registrar of Friendly Societies, the said Returns of the Rate of Sickness and Mortality, and the said Report of the Assets and Liabilities of such Society; and every such person who shall refuse or wilfully neglect to make, or cause to be made, or to send the said Returns of Sickness or Mortality, or the said Report of the Assets and Liabilities of such Society, at the time and in the manner prescribed by the said Acts, or this Act, shall be liable to a penalty not

exceeding the sum of five pounds, to be recovered, with costs, before any Justice of the Peace having jurisdiction where such Society shall have its place of meeting, and on non-payment thereof the same, with the reasonable costs of conviction, shall be levied by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offenders by warrant under the hand and seal of such Justices. (9 & 10 Vict. c. 27, s. 6.)

48. That this Society shall not exceed six hundred members.

---

## FINES.

| | s. | d. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Keyholders non-attendance ... ... ... ... | 0 | 6 | each. |
| Ditto ditto and sending key ... ... | 0 | 2 | — |
| Clerk and Beadle, non-attendance ... ... ... | 0 | 6 | — |
| Assistants ditto ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | — |
| Not paid on General Night ... ... ... ... | 0 | 6 | |
| President or Warden refusing to serve... ... ... | 5 | 0 | |
| Assistant refusing to serve ... ... ... ... | 2 | 6 | |
| Ditto neglect to attend on Cashier ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | |
| President for not enforcing fine ... ... ... ... | 0 | 6 | |
| Assistant refusing to attend on President when called on, | 0 | 6 | |
| Beadle's allowance for calling on President ... ... | 1 | 0 | |
| Secretary refusing to make Statements ... ... | 5 | 0 | |
| Cashier, President, Secretary, and Beadle's neglect to make out Accounts ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | 0 | each. |
| Cashier, Secretary, and Beadle's neglect to attend all meetings ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 4 | — |
| Auditors neglect to attend ... ... ... ... | 0 | 6 | — |
| Non-payment of Contribution, first night ... ... | 0 | 2 | |
| Ditto ditto second night ... ... | 0 | 4 | |
| Ditto ditto third night ... ... | 0 | 6 | |
| For Beadle warning the same ... ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | |
| If not paid on the fourth meeting night... ... ... | 0 | 6 | extra |
| Working while on sick pay ... ... ... ... | 5 | 0 | |
| Neglecting to bring Visiting tickets ... ... ... | 0 | 6 | |
| Neglecting to give the Beadle notice of removal within three meeting nights... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 3 | |
| If after ditto ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 0 | |
| Neglecting to pay quarterly instalment... ... ... | 1 | 0 | |

### SALARIES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cashier... ... ... ... ... ... | £8 | 0 | 0 |
| Secretary ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Beadle ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Ditto to have from each Member on General Meeting night ... ... ... ... | 0 | 0 | 1 |

Extra visiting, see Rule 15th.

CERTIFICATE REFERRED TO BY RULE 25TH.

*To the President of the Masons' Sick Society.*

I, A. B., do hereby give you notice, that in consequence (here state the nature of the illness), I am unable to execute any work, or to follow any employment, therefore claim the relief allowed by the 23d and 24th Rules of the Society.

We, the undersigned, certify the truth of the above case, as witness our hands this day of 18

---

In conformity to the 10 Geo. 4th, c. 56, s. 4, we, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do declare these to be the Rules and Tables of payments and allowances of the aforesaid Institution of which we are Members.

Witness our hand this Fourth day of July, 1848.

EDWARD BENNETT, President.
CHARLES HOWE, senr., Warden.
ALEXANDER FORD, jun., Warden.
JOHN BROADHEAD, Secretary.

---

I hereby certify that these Alterations of Rules are in conformity to Law, and to the provisions of the Statutes in force relating to Friendly Societies.

JOHN TIDD PRATT,
The Registrar of Friendly Societies in England.

30th December, 1848.

---

N.B. The Society have two good Palls, with Cloaks, Hoods, and Scarfs, which are free for the Members, except the Beadle's dues.

| | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|
| Pall .. ... ... ... ... | 1 | 0 |
| Cloaks ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 1 |
| Hoods and Scarfs, per pair ... .. | 0 | 1 |
| FOR STRANGERS. | | |
| Pall ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | 6 |
| Cloaks ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 6 |
| Hoods and Scarfs, per pair ... ... | 0 | 3 |

FORM OF RETURN TO BE ANNEXED TO RULES, pursuant to 10 Geo. IV. c. 56, s. 34, and 4 and 5 Wm. IV. c. 40, s. 6.

LIST of the MEMBERS of the SOCIETY, held at established on the with a Return of the Sickness and Mortality experienced therein for the period of Five Years, commencing January 1st, 18 and ending December 31st, 18

| NAMES. | Trade or Profession. | Date of Birth. | Date of Admission into the Society. | Date of becoming a Free Member. | For what time entitled to Relief on account of Sickness. | | | | | | | | | | For what time entitled to Relief on account of Superannuation. | | | | | | | | | | Date of death. | Place of Residence at Time of Death. | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | In 18 | | In 18 | | In 18 | | In 18 | | In 18 | | In 18 | | In 18 | | In 18 | | In 18 | | | | |
| | | | | | weeks. | days. | weeks. | days. | weeks. | days. | weeks. | days. | weeks. | days. | weeks. | days. | weeks. | days. | weeks. | days. | weeks. | days. | | | |
| [N.B. This column may be filled up with initials. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

# INDEX.

RULE.
1. Where Society to be held.
2. Intent and purposes of the Society.
3. Government of the Society.
4. Appointing Officers.
5. Attendance of Officers, and forfeit for neglect.
6. Refusing to serve, and ditto
7. Assistants visiting sick, and President examining notes.
8. Enforce the observance of Rules.
9. Expenses on monthly meeting nights.
10. Cashier requiring further money.
11. Duty of Cashier and salary.
12. Cashier receiving money.
13. Election of Secretary, and collecting interest.
14. Secretary making out statements.
15. Election of Beadle, duty and salary.
16. Cashier, Secretary, and Beadle elected annually.
17. Making out of accounts.
18. Cashier, Secretary, and Beadle to attend meetings.
19. Committee of Auditors.
20. Entrance fees of new members, and attend personally.
21. Sign a declaration on entering.
22. Contributions and fines for neglect.
23. Receiving sick pay.
24. Members residing out of Sheffield receiving sick pay.
25. Notice of sickness to be given to Cashier; misbehaviour while on sick pay.
26. Notice to sick Members from Cashier.
27. Sugeon's certificate required of sick Member leaving Sheffield.
28. Duty of sick Member while on pay.
29. Convicted of felony; admitted into poor-house, hospital, or parish relief.
30. Funeral allowance.
31. Charge of fraud while receiving pay.
32. Members misbehaving during meeting.
33. President's room.
34. Notice of removing residence to Beadle.
35. Enlisting in army, &c.
36. Grievances referred to Arbitrators.
37. Election of Arbitrators.
38. Investment of stock.

39. Contribution, if deficient, to be advanced.
40. How General Meetings are to be called.
41. Society not to be dissolved, &c.
42. Benefits suspended till fines be paid.
43. All money for the benefit of Society.
44. Trustees to be elected.
45. Book of accounts to be kept.
46. Return to be made.
47. Liability of Officers for not making out accounts.
48. Society not to exceed 600 Members.

JOHN BRIDGEFORD, PRINTER, CAXTON OFFICE, MULBERRY-STREET.

3497
pert